

## **MINUTES**

### **MONTANA SENATE 57th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION FREE CONFERENCE COMMITTEE ON HOUSE BILL 2**

**Call to Order:** By **CHAIRMAN BOB KEENAN**, on April 20, 2001 at 1:00 P.M., in Room 317-A Capitol.

#### **ROLL CALL**

**Members Present:**

Sen. Bob Keenan, Chairman (R)  
Rep. Steve Vick, Chairman (R)  
Rep. Dave Lewis (R)  
Rep. Matt McCann (D)  
Sen. Linda Nelson (D)  
Sen. Tom Zook (R)

**Members Excused:** None.

**Members Absent:** None.

**Staff Present:** Clayton Schenck, Legislative Fiscal Analyst  
Taryn Purdy, Legislative Fiscal Division  
Paula Broadhurst, Committee Secretary

**Please Note:** These are summary minutes. Testimony and discussion are paraphrased and condensed.  
Transcribed by Prudence Gildroy

**Committee Business Summary:** HB 2

#### **Section A:**

**CHAIRMAN BOB KEENAN** advised that amendment HB000252.atp **EXHIBIT**(frs89hb0002b01) would take \$67,000 from the energy contingency appropriations in the governor's office to fund the dues for the Council of State Government.

**Motion/Vote:** **CHAIRMAN KEENAN** moved that **AMENDMENT HB000252.ATP BE ADOPTED**. Motion failed 3-3 with Keenan, Nelson, and Zook voting aye.

**Motion:** **CHAIRMAN KEENAN** moved that **AMENDMENT HB000261.AGD BE ADOPTED**. **EXHIBIT**(frs89hb0002b02)

**CHAIRMAN KEENAN** explained the amendment was contingent language for SB 512.

**Discussion:**

**REP. MATT MCCANN** said that in the event the amendment was needed to hold the bill intact, That **SEN. JOHN COBB** favored restricting personal computers. He wondered what else was available to be restricted.

**CHAIRMAN KEENAN** said they could restrict everything. **REP. MCCANN** asked about the meaning of restricted.

**Taryn Purdy, Legislative Fiscal Division**, explained that restricted meant it had to be set aside and that none of the funds could be moved out of that appropriation and used for any other purpose. Anything unspent for that particular purpose would have to revert to the source of the revenue.

**Motion/Vote:** **REP. MCCANN** moved **TO RESTRICT ALL LINE ITEMS IN SB 512. Motion carried unanimously.**

**Vote:** Motion that **AMENDMENT HB000261.AGD BE ADOPTED** carried unanimously.

**Section C:**

**Ms. Purdy** explained that amendment HB000242.aty **EXHIBIT (frs89hb0002b03)** was a slight change from the amendment the committee had been holding regarding the Building Codes Division. The FTE in the first year had been reduced to 1.5. The funding was from the Building Codes state special revenue fund.

**Motion:** **REP. STEVE VICK** moved that **AMENDMENT HB000242.ATY BE ADOPTED.**

**REP. MCCANN** asked how the special revenue would be generated.

**Mark Simonich, Director, Department of Commerce**, explained that Building Codes had a permit system so the revenue would be generated from permit fees. Currently those areas were covered under local jurisdictions, but with SB 242 they would come under the jurisdiction of the state. The fees would be the same fees currently being paid in non-municipal areas.

**Vote:** Motion **carried 4-2 with McCann and Nelson voting no.**

**Motion/Vote:** CHAIRMAN KEENAN moved that AMENDMENT HB000250.AGH BE ADOPTED. Motion carried unanimously. EXHIBIT(frs89hb0002b04)

**Motion:** CHAIRMAN KEENAN moved that AMENDMENT HB000253.AGH BE ADOPTED. EXHIBIT(frs89hb0002b05)

CHAIRMAN KEENAN advised the amendment was technical. The Echo Lake fish planning money was taken out of the base at Fish, Wildlife, and Parks and the amendment would correct that situation.

**Vote:** Motion carried unanimously.

**Section D:**

CHAIRMAN KEENAN noted he talked to Ingrid Childress, Department of Labor and Industry, and \$1.3 million had come in specific to Columbia Falls Aluminum and Montana Resources.

SEN. LINDA NELSON advised that REP. JIM KEANE could answer any questions.

CHAIRMAN KEENAN said SB 322 was inclusive of natural resource workers and the grant that was referenced was specific to retraining the workers of those two particular companies.

REP. KEANE advised the grant was specific to Columbia Falls and Montana Resources. SB 322 had passed the House and the amendment would include all resource workers. He encouraged keeping SB 322 alive.

REP. VICK expressed concerns with using the RIT tax money. CHAIRMAN KEENAN and SEN. NELSON pointed out it was Orphan Share.

**Vote:** Motion carried 5-1 with Vick voting no.

REP. DAVE LEWIS advised that after intensive negotiations with the budget director, there had been discussion about setting aside a couple million dollars for litigation. Amendment HB000254.atp EXHIBIT(frs89hb0002b06) would eliminate the energy contingency fund in the Governor's office and set aside \$3.2 million of the general fund balance for the purpose of the amendment.

**Motion:** REP. LEWIS moved that AMENDMENT HB0000254.ATP BE ADOPTED.

CHAIRMAN KEENAN advised that adjustments would be made to the numbers in #2 of the amendment as they were a moving target.

**Vote:** Motion **carried unanimously.**

**Motion/Vote:** REP. VICK moved that **HB 2 DO PASS AS AMENDED. Motion carried unanimously.**

**ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment: 1:15 P.M.

---

SEN. BOB KEENAN, Chairman

---

PAULA BROADHURST, Secretary

BK/PB/PG

Transcribed by Prudence Gildroy

**EXHIBIT** (frs89hb0002bad)